

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA,
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021 AT 5:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Natchitoches met in legal and regular session at the Natchitoches Council Chambers, 716 Second Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

There were present:

Mayor Ronnie Williams
Councilwoman At Large Betty Sawyer-Smith
Councilman Eddie Harrington
Councilman Dale Nielsen
Councilman Christopher Petite
Councilwoman Rosemary Elie

Absent: None

Mayor Ronnie Williams called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone for coming. Mayor Williams led the invocation and Councilman Nielsen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Williams then called for the reading and approval of the minutes for the November 22, 2021 meeting. Councilwoman At Large Smith moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes and approval of same. Seconded by Councilman Harrington.

A roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite
Nays:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

Mr. James Threight of Real Estate Asset development updated the Council and audience on Hopeville Apartments.

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Nielsen at the December 13, 2021 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 061 OF 2021

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 64 OF 2001 BY CHANGING ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

LOTS, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, BLOCK “E” OF KEEGAN ADDITION, LESS 2,271 SQUARE FEET TO HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND LOT 5, BLOCK “E” OF KEEGAN ADDITION, LESS 797.6 SQUARE FEET TO HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT.

(Corner of East 5th and Keyser Ave.)

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Natchitoches, State of Louisiana, has recommended at their meeting of **December 8, 2021** that the application of Lisciotti Development Corp. to rezone the property described above from B-1 Commercial to B-2 special exception to operate from 5:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. for retail development (Corner of East. 5th and Keyser Ave.), be **APPROVED**.

Mr. Mark Roberts spoken on behalf of the developers in reference to Ordinance no. 061 of 2021

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Petite and Seconded by Mrs. Elie as follows, to-wit:

ORDINANCE NO. 059 OF 2021

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THAT LEASE ENTERED INTO WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FOR THE LEASE ALL OR A PORTION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 607 TRUDEAU STREET/DEPOT STREET AND 720 SIXTH STREET, NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE LEASE AMENDMENT BY THE MAYOR, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., AFTER DUE COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW, AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING OF THE LEASE AMENDMENT AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “City”) entered into a lease agreement with the National Park Service for the lease of a tract of land situated in the City of Natchitoches, situated in that block bounded on the East by Sixth Street, on the South by Trudeau Street, on the West by Railroad right of way and on the North by St. Denis Street, upon which tract is located the Texas and Pacific Railway Depot (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “Depot”) and that of ground located to the North of the Depot from Eagle Distributing of Shreveport, Inc., upon which tract is located an office and cold storage facility (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “Eagle Distributing Property”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Lease was approved by the City Council by Ordinance Number 34 of 2019; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, at the request of the National Park Service, an amendment to the Lease was approved by Ordinance Number 055 of 2020, in order to comply with certain new federal budget guidelines (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “First Lease Amendment”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Lease was amended a second time, as approved by Ordinance No. 66 of 2021, said amendment being made to amend the commencement date of the lease (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “Second Lease Amendment”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the National Park Service and the City have now agreed to further amend the Lease Agreement in order to remove a requirement for the installation of a sprinkler system in the depot building (sometimes hereinafter referred to as “Third Lease Amendment”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, a copy of the proposed Third Lease Amendment, with all attachments is attached as Exhibit “A”; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council reaffirms the prior stated opinion that the proposed use of the Depot and Eagle Distributing Property by the National Park Service will be beneficial to the City of Natchitoches and its citizens; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED that Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor of the City of Natchitoches, be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to enter into the Third Lease Amendment with the United States of America, acting by and through the designated representative of the National Park Service for the lease of the Depot and the Eagle Distributing Property all in substantial compliance with the Third Lease Amendment, a copy of which is attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED That notice of this proposed ordinance be in accordance with law, in the Natchitoches Times, the legal journal for the City, and that ordinance be posted in the City Hall.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any opposition to this ordinance shall be made in writing, filed with the Clerk for the City of Natchitoches, and that a public hearing is to be held after the advertisements have been completed.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on November 22, 2021 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on December 2, 2021.

The above Ordinance having been duly advertised in accordance with law and public hearing had on same, was put to a vote by the Mayor and the vote was recorded as follows:

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Ordinance passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays this 13th day of December, 2021.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Delivered to the Mayor on the 14th day of December, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Mayor Williams spoke in reference to Ordinance no. 059 of 2021

The following Ordinance was Introduced by Mr. Nielsen at the December 13, 2021 City Council meeting as follows:

ORDINANCE NUMBER 060 OF 2021

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE ACQUISITION OF A TRACT OF LAND SITUATED IN SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 8 NORTH, RANGE 7 WEST, FROM ELIZABETH S. ARTHUR, ET AL, FOR THE TOTAL CONSIDERATION OF EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, RONNIE WILLIAMS, TO EXECUTE A CASH SALE DEED ON BEHALF OF THE CITY FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE TRACT AND TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS THAT MIGHT BE NECESSARY AND PROPER, TO PROVIDE FOR ADVERTISING, AND A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

WHEREAS, Elizabeth S. Arthur, Susan Elizabeth Arthur and Allison Arthur Stamey (sometimes hereinafter collectively referred to as “Arthur”) are the owners of a certain tract of land, being 4.46 acres, more or less, and situated in Section 138, Township 9 North, Range 7 West, which tract is located on the northerly right of way of Louisiana Highway 478, and which tract is more fully described as follows, to-wit:

All of that portion of the following described piece, parcel or tract of land, situated and located in Section 10, Township 8 North, Range 7 West, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, that is situated North of Louisiana Highway 478, to-wit:

That certain tract or parcel of land containing 34.75 acres, more or less, situated in Sections 9, 10 and 16, Township 8 North, Range 7 West, Natchitoches Parish Louisiana, more particularly described on a plat of survey by J. J. Brouillette dated March 19, 1958, which survey is attached to Partition recorded in Conveyance book 238, page 431 of the records of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana.

(Sometimes hereinafter “Subject Property”)

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City of NatchiToches (sometimes hereinafter “City”) desires to increase the water available to the City Water System and previously negotiated a lease with Arthur of the Subject Property in order to drill a test water well; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the test water well was successful and the phase I cultural resources survey has now been conducted, and the City desires to acquire the Subject Property under the terms and conditions set forth in that

Lease Agreement and Option previously entered into by and between the City and Arthur; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, *the Subject Property is shown and depicted on the attached sketch within the boundary lines shown in “yellow”; and*

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City desires to acquire the Subject Property for the purpose of drilling water well(s) for the production of drinking water to be used in the City water system; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City has been provided with a copy of an appraisal prepared by Dranquet’s Appraisal Service, dated May 5, 2021, which reflects a market value of the real estate in excess of the purchase price; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City previously negotiated with Arthur for the purchase of the Subject Property, and entered a Lease With Option to Purchase the Subject Property from Arthur for the sum of Eighty-Three Thousand and no/100 (\$83,000.00) Dollars; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches has reviewed the proposed purchase and is of the opinion that the purchase of the Subject Property is in the best interests of the City of Natchitoches and its citizens for the continued development of the City water system; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, a copy of the proposed Deed is attached, and the Council approves same; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches desires to purchase the Subject Property from Arthur for the sum of \$83,000.00; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches is of the opinion that it is in the interest of the City to purchase of the Subject Property and desires to authorize Mayor, Ronnie Williams, to execute a deed and all associated documents; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Mayor and City Council have studied the matter and have concluded that the acquisition of the Subject Property would be in the best interest of the City, its citizens, and the general public; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council in regular session convened as follows:

I. That the purchase is approved and the Honorable Mayor, Ronnie Williams, be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to execute a Cash Sale Deed on behalf of the City, all in accordance with the general terms and conditions set forth in this Ordinance, and the said Mayor is hereby given full and complete authority to incorporate in said instrument such terms, conditions, and agreements as may be necessary to protect the interest of the City in substantial compliance with the general terms and conditions set forth in this Ordinance in order to acquire the property described as follows, to-wit:

All of that portion of the following described piece, parcel or tract of land, situated and located in Section 10, Township 8 North, Range 7 West, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, that is situated North of Louisiana Highway 478, to-wit:

That certain tract or parcel of land containing 34.75 acres, more or less, situated in Sections 9, 10 and 16, Township 8 North, Range 7 West, Natchitoches Parish Louisiana, more particularly described on a plat of survey by J. J. Brouillette dated March 19, 1958, which survey is attached to Partition recorded in Conveyance book 238, page 431 of the records of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana.

II. That the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to have all of the necessary legal documents and instruments prepared at once and that this transaction be closed as soon as this Ordinance is final.

III. That if any part of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, by a Court of competent Jurisdiction, such decision shall not effect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, and the invalidity shall be limited to that specific portion so declared to be invalid.

IV. That this Ordinance shall go into effect immediately after publication according to law.

VI. That all Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

VII. That this Ordinance be advertised in accordance with law.

VIII. That this Ordinance be declared **INTRODUCED** at a Regular Meeting of the City Council on this the 13th day December of _____, 2021, and that a public hearing be called for at the next regular meeting of the City Council which will be held on the 10th day of _____January , 2022.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced on December 13, 2021 and published in the *Natchitoches Times* on December 16, 2021.

Mayor Williams and Edd Lee spoke in reference to Ordinance no. 060 of 2021

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Smith and Seconded by Mr. Nielsen as follows, to – wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 102 OF 2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, STATE OF LOUISIANA, APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF AN ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT ASSIGNING THE INTERESTS OF JBL COMMUNICATIONS, LLC DBA V1FIBER TO NEO NETWORK DEVELOPMENT, INC. IN THE INSTRUMENT TITLED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES AND JBL COMMUNICATIONS, LLC DBA V1FIBER, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR. TO EXECUTE SAME.

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches (sometimes hereinafter referred to as the “City”) is a Municipality located in the State of Louisiana, Parish of Natchitoches governed under a Home Rule Charter and a Code of Ordinances adopted by Ordinance No. 5 of 1977; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City of Natchitoches is specifically authorized under Section 1.06 of the Charter of the City of Natchitoches to provide for the general welfare, safety, health, peace and good order of the City; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, JBL Communications, LLC dba V1Fiber (the “Company”) is engaged in the business of designing, engineering, owning and operating smart city networks generally consisting of fiber optic facilities, industrial and public Wi Fi, private LTE / CBRS and hybrid fiber and wireless networks to provide cost free and low cost broadband connectivity for K-12 students, distance learning, telehealth, telemedicine, job seekers, digital equity and inclusion, and/or public safety networks for improved security, surveillance, crime prevention, law enforcement and other essential services (“Services”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Company has expressed its desire to seek private and, philanthropic donations or grants, state and federal grants, interest free loans and other sources of funding and subsidies (collectively “Broadband Capital”) which shall be earmarked exclusively for Services within the City (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, it is the desire of the City to cooperate with any entity seeking to engage in an endeavor such as the Project to the extent allowed, and subject to the conditions required, under the laws of the State of Louisiana, specifically including but not limited to the conditions set forth in the Local Government Fair Competition Act, La. R.S. 45:844.40 et seq.; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Company and the City entered into the Agreement (defined below) in order for the Company to move forward with the Project; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the agreement entitled “Memorandum of Understanding” (the “Agreement”) provides for the cooperation between the City and the Company in the Project and prohibits assignment without the written consent of the parties; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Company has requested that the City approve its assignment of its interests in the Agreement to Neo Network Development Inc. (“Assignee”) via the execution of an Assignment Agreement (the “Assignment”); and

WHEREAS FURTHER, under the general law and the Home Rule Charter of the City, the City has the right, power, and authority to promote, protect, and preserve the general welfare, safety, health, peace and good order of the City; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City will expend no funds nor give anything of value under the terms of the Agreement nor the Assignment; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the City Council of the City of Natchitoches, Louisiana, acting as the Governing Authority of the City (the “Governing Authority”) is of the opinion that the Assignment will promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City and Natchitoches, State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS FURTHER, the Governing Authority has determined the City will expend no funds nor give anything of value under the terms of the Agreement nor the Assignment; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the defined terms in the recitals of this resolution (the “Resolution”) are incorporated herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Governing Authority, in legal and regular session convened, that it hereby authorizes the execution of the above described Assignment, in substantially similar form as the draft attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, and in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Assignment, and any and all other documents necessary to facilitate the cooperation described therein, in the name of and on behalf of the City; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any provision or section of this Resolution, or the application thereof, is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, sections or applications of this Resolution which can be given effect consistent with the terms of this Resolution absent the invalidated provisions, sections or applications, and to this end the provisions or sections of this Resolution, or their applications, so invalidated are hereby declared severable; and

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of December, 2021.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Mayor Williams spoke in reference to Resolution no. 102 of 2021.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Smith and Seconded by Mrs. Elie as follows, to –wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 103 OF 2021

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER
INTO A CONTRACT WITH EMPLOYERS RISK MANAGEMENT
SERVICES AS THE WORKERS COMPENSATION THIRD PARTY
ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

WHEREAS, the Insurance Committee has reviewed the proposals submitted by Employers Risk Management, as a third party administrator, for the handling of worker’s compensation claims for the City of Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS, the annual premium for this contract is **\$13,838.00** for the period January 1, 2022 through January 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the committee that the contract be awarded to Employers Risk Management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Honorable Ronnie Williams, Jr., Mayor, is hereby authorized and empowered and directed to sign any and all documents necessary for the execution of this contract.

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of December, 2021.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Edd Lee spoke in reference to Resolution no. 103 of 2021.

CITY OF NATCHITOCHES

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 104

Date: December 13, 2021

The City of Natchitoches of the Parish of Natchitoches met in regular session on this date. The following resolution was offered by Mr. Harrington and seconded by Mrs. Smith.

R E S O L U T I O N

A resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) for improvements at the Natchitoches Regional Airport.

WHEREAS, Act 451 of the 1989 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorized the financing of certain airport improvements from funds appropriated from the Transportation Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the CITY OF NATCHITOCHES has requested funding assistance from the LA DOTD to/for Agricultural Apron - Phase I (Design); and

WHEREAS, the stated project has been approved by the Louisiana Legislature and the LA DOTD is agreeable to the implementation of this project and desires to cooperate with the CITY OF NATCHITOCHES according to the terms and conditions identified in the attached Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the LA DOTD will provide the necessary funding for the Agricultural Apron Phase I (Design) and reimburse the sponsor up to \$45,330.00 of project cost.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Natchitoches that it does hereby authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement for the project identified as SPN H.014742, more fully identified in the Agreement attached hereto, and to execute any subsequent related documents, including, but not limited to, amendments to said agreement.

This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

The aforesaid resolution, having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

WHEREUPON, the resolution was declared adopted on the 13th day of December, 2021.

CITY OF NATCHITOCHES

BY: _____
(Signature)

(Typed or Printed Name)

TITLE: _____

ATTEST: _____
(Signature)

TITLE: _____

Edd Lee spoke in reference to Resolution no. 104 of 2021.

Councilwoman at Large Smith asked the status of the project.

THE CITY COUNCIL POSTPONED VOTING UNTIL JANUARY 10, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. 105 OF 2021

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR
FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council does hereby take cognizance of the recommendation of Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., that Stephen Hickman be appointed as Finance Director for the City of Natchitoches; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council hereby confirms the said appointment.

Mayor Williams asked the City Council members to offer a motion to postpone voting on Resolution No. 105 of 2021 to a later day.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MRS. SMITH AND SECONDED BY Mr. Nielsen.

This Motion was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Petite, Harrington
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Motion passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13 day of December, 2021.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Smith and Seconded by Mrs. Elie as follows, to –wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 106 OF 2021

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TO EXECUTE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT (IGA) BETWEEN NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 6, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF NATCHITOCHES PARISH IN LOUISIANA (“GRANTEE”), AND THE FOLLOWING: THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES, BY AND THROUGH ITS FIRE DEPARTMENT; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 1; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 2; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 3; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 4; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 5; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 7; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 8; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 9; NATCHITOCHES PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 10

WHEREAS, Grantee, acting on behalf of themselves and Subrecipients, has applied for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“Grant”); and

WHEREAS, all Parties are in need of standardized, interoperable communications equipment that will support regional firefighters in emergency response(“Equipment”); and

WHEREAS, The Grantee and Subrecipients are authorized to enter into an agreement to cooperate in receiving, distributing, and coordinating the Grant funds topurchase such equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHESAS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council hereby approves the Intergovernmental Agreement between Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 6, a Political Subdivision of Natchitoches Parish in the State of Louisiana (Exhibit A) between City of Natchitoches, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Louisiana, By and Through Its Fire Department; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 1; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 2; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 3; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 4; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 5; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 7; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 8; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 9; Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District 10

Section 2. The Fire Chief is authorized to execute the IGA on behalf of the City.

Section 3. This resolution is effective immediately upon its enactment by theCity Council.

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of December, 2021.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Corey Leo spoke in reference to Resolution no. 106 of 2021.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Elie and Seconded by Mrs. Smith as follows,
to –wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 107 OF 2021

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT FOR A GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO FEMA
FOR THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (AFG) PROGRAM FOR PERSONAL
PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

WHEREAS, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant assists Fire Departments with funding for needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel, enhance efficiencies and support community resilience.

WHEREAS, eligible activities funded through the AFG include the purchase of protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards; and

WHEREAS, the Natchitoches Fire Department is in critical need of personal protective equipment and desires to submit an application for the Fiscal Year 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Natchitoches offers its full support of a grant application submitted by the Natchitoches Fire Department to the Assistance to Firefighters 2021 Grant Program

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., is hereby authorized to sign the grant application on behalf of the City of Natchitoches.

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of December, 2021.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Corey Leo spoke in reference to Resolution no. 107 of 2021.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Harrington and Seconded by Mr. Petite as follows, to –wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 108 OF 2021

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER
INTO A CONTRACT WITH MIDWEST EMPLOYERS CASUALTY
COMPANY FOR THE WORKERS’ COMPENSATION EXCESS
COVERAGE POLICY FOR THE CITY OF NATCHITOCHES**

WHEREAS, the Insurance Committee has reviewed the proposals submitted by Midwest Employers Casualty Company, for the handling of the worker’s compensation excess coverage policy for the City of Natchitoches; and

WHEREAS, the annual premium for this contract is **\$75,101.00** for the period **January 1, 2022** through **January 1, 2023**; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the committee that the contract be awarded to Midwest Employers Casualty Company.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Honorable Ronnie Williams, Mayor, is hereby authorized and empowered and directed to sign any and all documents necessary for the execution of this contract.

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

AYES:	Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of December, 2021.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Edd Lee spoke in reference to Resolution no. 108 of 2021.

MOTION TO ADD RESOLUTION NO. 109 of 2021 TO THE AGENDA

Motion made by: Harrington

Seconded by: Nielsen

Roll call vote: Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Nielsen and Seconded by Mrs. Smith as follows, to –wit:

RESOLUTION NO. 109 OF 2021

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., TO HIRE COTHREN GRAFF AND SMOAK, INC. FOR APPLICATION ASSISTANCE FOR GRANT SUBMITTED FOR FUNDING TO THE LOVE LOUISIANA OUTDOORS GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Natchitoches is desirous of submitting an application to the Love Louisiana Outdoors Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the application is to seek grant funding and/or revenue for funding for re-development of Richardson Park on Lake Street; and

WHEREAS, the necessary scope of work to be implemented by Cothren Graff and Smoak, Inc. is design and engineering services required to construct the stated improvements requested to be funded; and

WHEREAS, the commitment for this scope of work is projected to be in the amount of \$13,500.00 and is subject to being approved for funding under the stated program;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Natchitoches has hired Cothren Graff and Smoak, Inc. to provide design and engineering services subject to successful funding relative to the Love Louisiana Outdoors Grant Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Natchitoches offers its full support of a grant application submitted by the City of Natchitoches to the Louisiana Division of Administration for funding under the Love Louisiana Outdoors Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., is hereby authorized to sign the grant application on behalf of the City of Natchitoches.

This Resolution was then presented for a vote, and the vote was recorded as follows:

AYES: Elie, Nielsen, Smith, Harrington, Petite
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

THEREUPON, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr., declared the Resolution passed by a vote of 5 Ayes to 0 Nays on this 13th day of December, 2021.

RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR

Randal Smoak spoke in reference to Resolution no. 109 of 2021.

Announcements:

- Next Scheduled City Council meeting will be January

With no further discussion, Mayor Williams made a motion for adjournment and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

**_____
RONNIE WILLIAMS, JR., MAYOR**

**_____
BETTY SMITH, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE**